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JAN 1982

On January 11

Dan Daniel to visit here

Fifth District Congressman Dan Daniel will hold a constituents' workshop in Appomattox on Monday, Jan. 11.

The Congressman will be at the clerk's office in the county court house from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. He will also be at the clerk's office in Buckingham from noon to 2 p.m., and at the courthouse in Cumberland from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Any resident of the Fifth Congressional District who has a problem with a federal agency or who wishes to talk about legislation may see the Congressman at these times without an appointment.

Those wishing to discuss cases pending federal agencies should bring with them prior correspondence or file identification numbers to assist the congressman in his inquiries.

Daniel will also hold a workshop at Charlotte County Court House from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, Jan. 8.

Closing of PES to be discussed

The Appomattox County School Board will meet in regular session on Wednesday, January 13 at 3:30 in the afternoon at the school board office.

Items on the agenda include the following: Consideration of the closing of the Pamplin Elementary School at the end of the current school session; consideration of vocational education plan; consideration of special education plan; and consideration of Alternate #1 low bid on the Appomattox Middle School project submitted at the special meeting on December 18.

The meeting is open to interested citizens.

Pest infestation possible

As the holiday season ends, Plant Pest officials of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) remind consumers to properly dispose of Christmas trees that are infested with gypsy moth egg masses.

According to Commissioner S. Mason Carbaugh, "It is imperative that these trees are properly disposed of so that the eggs do not develop and cause a serious gypsy moth infestation in our state."

If you found an egg mass on your tree, you are urged to take the following steps when you are ready to take the tree down:

1. Paint each mass thoroughly with kerosene, rubbing alcohol, cresote or a pruning paint. (Do not apply these liquids inside the house, take the tree outdoors.) Burning, if permitted will also do the job.

2. Take the tree to the nearest landfill where it will be buried and the eggs destroyed.

3. Regardless of whether you determine that egg masses are on the tree, be sure the tree is picked up by local authorities in trash pickups (where they will be taken to the landfill) if you do not take the tree to the landfill yourself.

Commissioner Carbaugh stressed the importance of taking the above precautionary steps so that no new infestation of gypsy moth will be established in Virginia.

The Rains Came

UNLIKE LAST YEAR, when Appomattox County and Central Virginia were caught in the throes of a serious drought, rainfall, so far, this winter, has been above normal. The James River at Bent Creek is above normal level. Precipitation as of December 1, 1981 has been 7.22 Normal precipitation for December is 3.20. "We have had adequate top soil moisture for several weeks, but what we really need is to replenish the underground supply and that will take time. WE're on the way, but we need more water," said Jim Smith, Extension Agent for Appomattox County. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

It's tax time: IRS describes changes in laws

Internal Revenue Service projections show 2,210,000 Virginians will file individual Federal income tax returns for 1981. An estimated 4,800 of those returns will come from Appomattox according to the IRS. Some 2,140,000 individuals returns for 1980 were filed from Virginia.

As outlined by the IRS, these are the major tax law changes affecting individuals and their 1981 tax returns based on the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 and the Crude Oil Windfall Profit Tax Act of 1980:

- the 5 percent income tax rate reduction which took effect last October 1.

- The sale of "All Savers Certificates," also effective last October 1, which allows up to $1,000 of tax-free interest to individuals and $2,000 to married couples.

- Since last July 20, people selling their home have 24 months instead of 18 to purchase a new one costing as much or more to avoid taxes on the sale's profit. For those people 55 or older, the one-time tax-free profit from capital gains taxes on the sale of their home is increased to $125,000 from $100,000.

- On June 9, the top rate on capital gains taxes dropped from 28 to 20 percent for those taxpayers in the highest tax brackets (50 percent and above). The lower rate is effective Jan. 1, 1982, for all taxpayers.

- For the 1981 tax year only up to $200 for individuals and $400 for married couples of interest and dividend income is excluded from taxable income. The law reverts back to the $100/$200 exclusion for dividend income alone for 1982.

Several additional tax law changes which also took effect on Jan. 1, 1982, won't affect 1981 returns. Those changes include allowing investment of up to $2,000 for all wage earners in an individual retirement account even if they're already covered by a pension or retirement plan . . . reducing the so-called marriage penalty against working couples through a deduction of up to $1,500 from their income . . . expanding the maximum credits for child care expenses to between $480 and $1,440 . . . permitting a deduction of up to $25 for charitable contributions by persons who don't itemize their deductions . . . and, increasing the amount of a tax-free gift one person can give to any number of recipients each year to $10,000 from $3,000.

The changes have not meant any significant alterations to the 1040 "long form" or 1040A "short form," according to the IRS. Last year's Census Burau questions are not repeated on either form; extra lines were added to both forms to account for the combined interest dividend income exclusion and to compute the amount allowed for personal exemptions; and a Schedule B was added to the back of the 1040A to allow taxpayers with $400 or more of interest and/or dividend income who otherwise qualify to still use the short form.

Further, the tax table income was increased to the $50,000 level for each filing status.

First baby procrastinates

By FRANCES H. PAULETTE

Something is missing.......and it can't be helped, not really!

Everything is ready to welcome the first baby born to an Appomatox County couple in 1982. In keeping with an established pattern of the last few years, the **Times-Virginian** once again offered a "First Baby Of The Year" contest for 1982.

A host of Appomatox businessmen are offering various prizes for the special baby and it's parents.

The welcome mat is out, the prizes are waiting, but something is missing......the baby!!

As of press time, no winner has been declared, but we're keeping our fingers crossed.

According to contest rules listed in last week's issue of the **Times-Virginian**, "the exact time of birth must be specified by the attending physician, written statement must be submitted to the paper no later than 12:00 noon on January 4, 1982. In the event there is no winner by that time, the contest will be extended until a winner is declared."

The first baby born in 1981 to an Appomattox County couple was Aaron Kenneth Chandler, born on January 4, 1981.

As for Christmas babies, that's an entirely different story!

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Evans, owners and operators of The Clothesline in the Triangle Plaza Shopping Center, added a boy to their family of two sons on Christmas Day. Charles Christopher was born on Christmas Day in the Southside Community Hospital, Farmville. The Evans' older sons are David, six and Daniel, three.

The Spout Spring area can boast of their very own Christmas baby. Bridget Noelle was born on Christmas Day at the Virginia Baptist Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer E. Jones of Spout Spring. They are the parents of two sons, Michael, six and one-half and William, three year of age.

Noelle was the first baby born at the Virginia Baptist Hospital on Christmas Day, 1981 and she has the distinction of being the fourth generation Christmas baby born on her mother's side of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Barksdale, owners and operators of the Chicken Palace, located on highway 460, Appomattox, proudly announce the birth of their son, Brett Edward, born on Christmas Day at the Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Expectant mothers, get busy!!

Who will be the lucky baby??

Adult education classes set

Adult education classes for second semester in Appomattox County are scheduled to start the week of January 25. Classes that are tentatively being planned will include art, GED Review, physical education (men), aerobex, bricklaying, sewing, typing, upholstery, woodworking, farm machinery repair (Pamplin and Appomattox), tailoring, and diet, exercise and behavior modification (DEB).

Further details as to registration procedures, exact dates, times, meeting places and tuition charges will appear in the **Times-Virginian** during the weeks of January 11 and 18. Additional information on adult classes may be obtained by calling R. B. Carter, adult ed coordinator, at 352-8253.

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

If the new year keeps up like it started, it will be a record wet one. Early Monday my garden spot looked like a lake, and being on Martha Street, I named it Lake Martha. However the water soon went into the ground and may be around to help whatever plants come up this Spring. Heavens to Betsy, had the rain been snow would have had lots of shoveling to do. Weatherwise, 1982 has tooted the whistle on a fairly dry year and I'm ready for some sunshine.

* * *

For weeks have been watching wall to wall TV football games. Would feel at home in the huddle. If you watched the Cotton Bowl game you not only saw Bear Bryant's Alabama longtime champs lose one, but you saw Appomattox represented in the person of Head Linesman, Bill Jamerson. As always, Bill did a good job and got in one TV closeup.

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Saturday will bring on a big basketball game, No. 1 North Carolina and No. 2 Univ. of Virginia.

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One other sports item. American Johnny Miller won $500,000 in golf by defeating Seve Ballesteroes in a match at Bophuthatswana, South Africa. Probably aced out while asking his opponent to spell his name and where abouts.

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Mrs. Helen Gunter, Appomattox, is a great cook. Brought some "Angel Biscuits" and cookies and they were delicious.

* * *

Mrs. J. C. Caldwell and Mrs. Vergil Hudson dropped by to see us Sunday. Sent word to Mr. Caldwell to get well and be ready for the appraching baseball season. Rev. and Ms. Hudson were formerly in our county, at Evergreen. For the past eight years have been in Portsmouth, at a large Baptist church I had the pleasure of visiting some years ago. Mrs. Hudson is a champ at crossword puzzles and one of the best proofreaders.

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I do not believe it, but have heard it said that what one does the first day of a new year indicated what one will be doing rest of the year. Example: I stayed home mostly and spent total of twenty-five cents.

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Thanks to Mrs. W. J. Smith, Lynchburg, for a message saying she is a regular reader of this column. She is the mother of our fine pharmacist, Fred Smith.

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Has been a great sports season for Clemson College. That pleases Extension Agent Jim Smith, a Clemson alumnus.

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Understand there is an excellent yield of oysters and crabs in Chesapeake Bay waters and its tributaries, but a shortage of labor for shucking and peeling. Wish I could help but have no talent. Scared to touch crabs until on the plate, and oceanside oysters are hard to open. Had an oyster stew lately?

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Like I said, There Are Things To Do In '82." In that sense, there are no unemployed. Thanks for reading and seeya around.

Monday Accident

AN OVERNIGHT TRACTOR-TRAILER, DRIVEN BY Richard Alvin Jennings ended up in the median strip of 460 on Monday, January 4 at approximately 12:30 p.m. when a 1971 Plymouth, driven by Jennie Coleman of Spout Spring made an improper turn. Although the maneuver did not avert a collision, there were no injuries to the driver of either vehicle. Damage to each vehicle was estimated at approximately $350.00. Investigation is continuing. Appomattox County was fortunate, despite hazardous weather conditions and numerous minor accidents as a result of the icy roads, no serious accidents were reported.

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